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The present volume is apparently the first venture of the author. It is well written and has abundant citations of authorities, though too often the precise reference to page or date is lacking. Acknowledgments are made to earlier writers, especially to Weil; but more notable is the use of many documents from the archives in Paris, Naples, Vienna, and London, and the collections of the Società Napolitana di Storia Patria.

As the title indicates, M. Espitalier studies Murat from the angle of his relations with Napoleon. He regards Murat, as he thinks Napoleon did, and as historians have been too wont to do, as merely a successful soldier destitute of political sense; and as a Frenchman, he sees in Murat's interest in Italian unity only the desperate resort of a disappointed ambition, a treason to Napoleon, or rather to France in the hour of need. Napoleonic in sentiments and point of view, he sees no possibility of a definite, let alone an honorable, policy on the part of Murat. For him, the ultimate sin blackens the whole life.

The ethics of every-day life fail to explain Murat. He was an adventurer in an age of glorified adventurers. Bonaparte's remarkable rise to imperial power turned the heads, not only of his brothers and sisters, but also of his comrades in arms. They aspired to independent position, overlooking their vast indebtedness to their great brother and general; but Bernadotte alone realized his ingrate ambition. Napoleon, in the words of Berthier, bade Joseph, Louis, Jerome, and Joachim: "Pour vos sujets soyez roi, pour l'Empereur soyez un vice-roi." Napoleon's cosmopolitanism never sensed the spirit of nationality, but Louis and Joseph and Murat each caught something of the spirit of the peoples they were set to rule, even as Bernadotte did in Sweden. Murat had, as brilliant cavalry officer and as brother-in-law, a double claim upon Napoleon. He and his ambitious and intriguing wife, Caroline, had cause to feel badly rewarded with Naples when they saw the inconsequential Joseph supplant him in Spain. Napoleon never considered the interests of the subkingdoms apart from his own; Murat gave priority to the welfare of Naples—obviously base disloyalty to the emperor. Later, when he saw the power of his brother-in-law crumble, Murat shrewdly grasped the opportunity to gratify his thwarted ambitions by identifying himself with the spirit of Italian nationality. Had he merely sought Italian unity under his sway, without turning upon his benefactor and without intriguing with the foes of his native land, Murat might be understood and pardoned. Contempt or, at best, pity is, however, the lot of this interesting but puzzling comrade and brother-in-law of the arch-adventurer, Napoleon Bonaparte.

GEORGE M. DUTCHER.

Il Risorgimento Italiano. Conferenze del Prof. COSTANZO RINAUDO. (Turin: Olivero e C. 1909. Pp. 830.)

THIS may be described as a topical rather than as a narrative history of the Risorgimento. It consists of forty-four lectures delivered by

Professor Rinaudo before the young officers of the Italian War College. Naturally, the requirements of lecturing determined the length and form of the separate chapters. If there are undeniable drawbacks, there are some compensations in the inclusion of several topics which would have been treated very briefly in a narrative history. At times, we have instead of a narrative of action a series of essays—two on Mazzini, for instance, another on Gioberti's political theory, others on the women of the Risorgimento before 1848, and on the political poets. Nor should we omit to mention that the philosophy of the Risorgimento—its aims and factors and the Italian national traditions—are discussed in a section of five introductory lectures. Besides Mazzini and Gioberti, Pius IX., Victor Emanuel, and Cavour are allotted each a chapter for a character-study.

To attempt to analyze such a work in a paragraph would be futile; but it may serve prospective readers to say that they will find Professor Rinaudo a safe guide on nearly all points. He has no marked talent at portraiture, so that we do not bring away from his pages the features of Cavour or Mazzini drawn in master-strokes, but rather a composite of each which everybody can recognize. So too in his discussion of the burning questions over which historians have been debating for half-a-century, we are more likely to get in Rinaudo the resultant of conflicting opinions than a vigorous, convincing verdict of his own. When we remember that these lectures were prepared for the students of the War College, we shall understand why so sober, unpolemical, and conciliatory a historian was chosen for the task. We should not expect that the American Secretary of the Navy would commission a strong partizan of either Sampson or Schley to lecture before the cadets at Annapolis on the battle of Santiago.

It is this moderation which gives Professor Rinaudo's work much of its value; and we can commend it to general readers as being the best account in Italian of the Risorgimento. But the historical student who seeks to know causes will often be disappointed. He would never suspect, for instance, from the professor's two pages (685-686) the proportions or significance of the drama which was enacted between Garibaldi's entry into Naples and his departure for Caprera in the autumn of 1860. Everything is smoothed down; what could not be smoothed down is omitted. And yet even the proficient in the Risorgimento will be grateful to Professor Rinaudo for assembling many stray matters of interest. Especially for the earlier period, which has been less worked, he may be recommended.

His book lacks an index—a lack which should be made a criminal offense in every civilized country. The bibliography of 1000 titles—a large number of which refer to magazine articles—is more than enough for the ordinary reader but too meagre for the specialist. The fact that it includes no English or German titles casts an unpleasant doubt on the range of the author's scholarship.